

Washington Massage

NEWS



Wash. Chapter, American Association Masseurs & Masseuses

John Murray, Editor

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In Conclusion

On June 4 and the morning of June 5 your Washington Chapter, A.M.T.A. holds its annual state meeting or convention in Elmer's Cafe in Loses Lake. At each annual meeting as you know new officers and directors must be elected or present ones re-elected. The A.M.T.A. by laws prevent the State chapter president and vice president from serving more than three consecutive yearly terms in the same office. This is a wise precaution which prevents the infamous Dave Beck-Jimmy Hoffa type of misrule. Our secretary-treasurer, the directors and committee members can be re-elected as many times as the membership sees fit to vote them in again. This is also a wise provision because those who serve in these positions become thoroughly familiar with their work thru experience, which is very important.

On the morning of June 5, a new president and vice president will be installed. Blossom Guntley will have finished serving her third term as vice president, and I will likewise have finished my third year as president.

I believe there is a tendency to attach entirely too much importance to the president and too little importance to the other officers and directors. It is true that a president must exercise some sort of leadership, but his powers are limited by the by-laws and that is also a wise provision. The president must encourage and assist the other officers and committees, but he can not make their decisions for them. The real authority resides in the executive board which is composed of the officers and directors elected by the membership in convention assembled. The president must always be governed by the Board's decision and desires. In the final analysis the board must reflect the desires of the majority of the membership which elects the Board members. The Board members must diligently transact the state chapter's business to the best of their ability.

God has given each individual certain character and personality traits that make us what we are. You and I and all of us have our own particular good qualities which must be balanced against our weaknesses. During the year that I served as secretary-treasurer and the three years I have now served as president, I have often expressed my affection and respect for the people with whom I have worked and served. During those years the Board found itself compelled, for the good of the State Chapter, to take punitive action against certain people. I can assure everyone of you that our performance of this duty has brought us pain and sadness. Life sometimes demands that when we must choose between our duty and our personal desires, we can not evade our duty and still hold our heads erect. If our decisions have been wrong or unjust, I hope the membership will elect a new Board that will correct our mistakes. However, we made our decisions and we offer no apologies; and we feel no bitterness.



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Port Townsend, Wash.

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Many of you attended our April 3rd meeting in Seattle with the Department of Licenses officials, as reported in the May issue of Wash. Massage News by John Murray. I believe we made history at that meeting. Such matters as colonic irrigations, spinal manipulation techniques and the use of physical therapy equipment have been the subject of disagreement and dispute with the Dept. for many years. I suggest that you keep your copy of massage news in a convenient place and read John's report occasionally, which seemed to me like a cool breeze on a troubled and feverish brow. I hope the State Chapter can hold more such meetings with the Dept. occasionally, as well as meetings with the officers of the state Medical Association. Our Legislative committee has spent much time and effort in building good relations with the Dept. and the medical people. I would like to suggest that this committee be renamed Legislative and Public Relations Committee.

As I approach the end of my duties and responsibilities I feel relief and a sense of freedom, but also feel regret that my pleasant relationship with my fellow officers, directors and committee members must cease. My greatest regret is that our membership is smaller now than it was three years ago. Perhaps a better state president could have prevented this decline. If this is the case, then the near future should witness an increase in membership.

I wish our next state president the greatest success and the best cooperation. May he or she be as happy to serve, as I have been, and may harmony prevail throughout the organization. Your confidence in me and your willing cooperation have made me feel a little more humble and a great deal happier. What more can life offer any of us than the privilege of serving others? In service to others, man meets his greatest challenge and reaches his highest destiny. He may feel a pulsating ecstasy which is his reward from God, or he may sink in the blackest morass of oblivion and despair. He earns his reward with his integrity or his punishment with his deceit. God bless you.

Faternally,

Pete L. Eitrein, R.M.T.

Editor Washington Massage news:

John, you asked me to write something for the paper. I certainly do not want to write about myself, as I am, as you, just another of God's children making an effort to do my service to my fellow men. Whether or not I could be called successful would depend upon the individual interpretation of success.

Personally I can not accept success in the terms of material things. There are so temporary for in the final analysis none of us ever own anything, we merely have the use of material things for the time being, for when we pass on none of the things we strive to possess, pass on with us. They remain to be used by others and so it should be.

My concept of success is determined by the effort put forth to live, truly and honestly and with the purpose of doing.

Success in life is not dependent upon always making the right decisions. Some people are so totally the victims of indecision that they never make a wrong decision, for the simple reason that they avoid making any decisions.

The most nearly perfect individual makes many mistakes but his or her success is based upon the fact that the constant doing of things, and the constant making of decisions result in more right decisions and right actions than wrong ones. Cultivate the habit of mental decision, gain the habit of assembling your facts and information rapidly, forming the best decision possible under the circumstances, then carry out your decision.

Later, perhaps, we may find our decisions were wrong, at least we have had the character building satisfaction of having put forth every effort, and having done the best we could.

Wisdom comes as much from our failures and incorrect decisions as from our apparent success and correct decisions. The big thing is the qualities of decisions, forth putting and action.

We must not make excuses, or blame others for our failures, whining and self pity are wasted energy. Put forth every effort. Do the utmost best we can under the prevailing circumstances, then we are on the highway to success.

Often times a word or phrase will give me food for thought. The sitting quietly I turn them over in my mind and try to apply a little philosophy to living.

So in our work as therapists we must consider massage a philosophy, science and art. We must have the why? what? and how? in what we do. I believe if we all had that and used it more, we could have a membership so dedicated in the truth of our work, that our association could not have to seek the association for our common benefits.

This I know, truth does not need defending. If it isn't truth, it isn't worth bothering about.

Now my fellow members, if I in any way have contributed a thought worthy of passing on, I am happy. I shall consider it a privilege to write again for the massage news, with a thought or idea as it occurs to me.

To all fellow therapists, I wish the best, may we be true to ourselves.

Stewart L. Piper, R.L.T.

A very nice letter Stewart, which proves that we have some good writing talent in our membership when they can find the time and are willing to give of their knowledge.

A porter in a drugstore did so well that eventually he was allowed to sweep up behind the prescription counter. He took pride in the promotion. One day the pharmacist said he was going out for a minute and asked the porter to answer the phone if it rang. It soon rang. "Hello" said the porter.

"Do you have aureomycin, streptomycin, and penicillin?" The caller asked. Flabbergasted, the porter was silent for a moment, "Master" he said at last, "when I told you 'Hello' I told you everything I know."

The Washington Massage Therapy Association held its annual pre-convention Board of Directors meeting, at Moses Lake, May 1, 1960, meeting in private dining room at Elmer's Cafe. State President Pete Eitrein, Vice President Blossom Gintley, Sec.-Treas. Ruth Williams, were the state officers represented. Arthur Dunbar, Arthur Mann, Jess Williams, John Murray, of the board of directors were present, Russel Topor, the fifth member of the board of directors, was unable to attend.

The meeting was well conducted and very harmonious throughout the entire meeting. Much official business was transacted both in preparation for the coming convention and pertaining to old memberships and prospective memberships. The change in title of our state chapter - certificates, etc.

The new Wash. State Charter will be here by the coming convention date, at which time all members ~~will be~~, in good standing, who attend this convention will be allowed to place their signature on the new charter as charter members. The old charter members on the old A.A.M.T. charter now defunct, have become almost extinct, through one cause or another, with the birth of the new title made by the National Convention in 1958 makes this change necessary.

Every member in good standing should make a special effort to attend the Wash. State Convention. The state officers and directors have tried to locate the convention as close to the center of the state as possible so that it is not too far for the most distant member to attend. The state officers and directors and legislative committee are carrying the load for the non-active members. Why not every member attend the convention to show that you appreciate their efforts to try and give you value for the money you spend in membership dues.

Our state officers have been very capable, honest and fearless in the discharge of their duties, it has been a real pleasure as a member of the board of directors to work with them.

Due to the three year rule, that no one can hold office more than 3 years, it will be necessary to make changes, we need officer material, we have several very capable therapists in our association, but unfortunately they have not attended enough meetings to be familiar with our goals, and the obstacles and pit falls in our way as we strive to reach that goal. Every member should come and bring a prospective member to Moses Lake, June 4 and 5.

The sun and dry air of Moses Lake will be good for those tired nerves and muscles of you massage therapists. Moses Lake has wonderful accommodations, extra friendly local citizens, good food, etc. Come on, every member, treat yourself to a treat. Attend your state of Washington Massage Therapists annual convention, make it your vacation.

Editor

Conscience, is that which hurts, when everything else feels so good.

Gossip: A person with a sense of rumor.

Secret: Something you tell only one person at a time.

When it comes to doing for others, some people will stop at nothing.

This issue of the Washington State Massage News, will complete my years duty as your editor of this little paper. The Wash. State Convention will be in Moses Lake on June 4 and 5. Saturday and Sunday. If the membership desires, to make a change of editors it will be very agreeable to me. If the membership wishes me to continue I will with the help of all the membership, try to give you as good or better, massage news than the past issues.

This little paper takes considerable time, which I have very little of. I hire a typist to do the typing of the master sheets. Then my wife and daughter and myself put the typed master sheets through the duplicator machine, which takes the three of us about two hours to print, staple and fold, chuck in the envelopes, stamps and mail. With this time consumed it can get real discouraging. We got off to a rather bad start. Members contributions were slow in coming or did not come at all. A few old faithfuls came up with something in time to save those issues. The past 6 or 7 months have been a real pleasure, everyone has done their best, some have done more than best, to help me make our little paper friendly, educational and an inspiration to belong to the Wash. Massage Therapists association.

My practice here in Port Townsend is taking a great deal more of my time than I like. Being a 6 day a week routine unless I just take a day and hide out.

When I left the Washington Athletic Club a year and a half ago, five different businessmen and one Medical Doctor approached me individually to open a clinic for massage therapy and modern hydro-therapy in downtown Seattle offering finance, from ten thousand to twenty five thousand dollars to secure location and proper equipment. It was my intention to accept one of these offers, after I had completed some maintenance work on my property in Port Townsend, the practice kept growing and demanding more of my time, that the maintenance work is still unfinished, the Seattle propositions are still on the fire.

I feel that the success ~~with the practice~~ that I have enjoyed, both with the Wash. Athletic club members and my local practice is due to going the extra